We claim:

1. A method of testing an audio program having at least a first audio and a second audio channel, said method comprising:

generating a pseudo audio test signal having a first and a second channel that define a unique image;

attaching said pseudo audio test signal to said audio program to form a combined audio program;

recording said composite audio program on an audio media;

reading said composite audio program from said audio media;

detecting said pseudo audio test signal from said composite audio program; and

displaying a reproduced image corresponding to said unique image, wherein said reproduced image has geometric and spatial characteristics that are indicative of characteristic parameters of the audio program.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said first and second test channels define orthogonal components for said image.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting said combined program to another location.

4. A method of generating a visual indication indicative of a characteristic parameter of a multichannel audio program, said characteristic having one of a first value and a second value, said method comprising:

receiving said audio program with a test signal attached thereto, said test signal including a first and a second test channel, said test channels corresponding to channels of said audio program and being associated with a unique visual image; and

displaying said unique image said test channels, wherein the image displayed image has spacial and geometric characteristics related to said characteristic parameter.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said audio program and said test signal are recorded on an audio media and said step of receiving includes reading said audio program and said test signal from said audio media.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein said unique image is displayed using an X-Y display device having an X input and a Y input receiving said first and second test channels respectively.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said test signal defines a pseudo audio signal with said first and second channels corresponding to a left and right stereo component.

8. The method of claim 4 further comprising inspecting said unique image as it is displayed to determine its spatial and geometric characteristics.

9. The method of claim 4 wherein said audio program includes a left and

a right program channel and wherein said image is generated to have an orientation indicative of whether the left and right channels of the audio program are correctly recorded.

10. The method of claim 4 wherein said image is selected with dimensions and configurations that are indicative of an improperly recorded audio program when said image is displayed.

11. An audio test signal generator comprising:

a source of digital data corresponding to a unique graphic image;

a converter adapted to convert said digital data into a pseudo audio test signal; and

a combining circuit arranged to combine an audio program and said pseudo audio test signal into a composite audio signal.

12. The signal generator of claim 11 wherein said image is composed of two orthogonal components, and wherein said converter includes a first extractor adapted to extract one of said components and a second extractor adapted to extract the second of said components from said digital data.

13. The signal generator of claim 12 wherein said audio program includes a left and a right program track and wherein said converter is adapted to convert said first and second components into respective left and right test tracks corresponding to said left and right program tracks.

16. A test signal generator adapted to generate a test signal for an audio program having a left and right program track, said test signal generator comprising:

memory means holding digital data descriptive of a unique two dimensional image; and

converter means adapted to convert said digital data into a pseudo audio test signal having a left test track and right test track.

17. The test signal generator of claim 16 wherein said converter means includes means for extracting an X-component from said digital data and means for extracting a Y-component from said digital data, and means for converting said X- and Y-components into said corresponding left and right test tracks.

18. The test signal generator of claim 17 further comprising multiplexer means adapted to combine said pseudo audio test signal with said audio program to generate a composite audio program.

19. The test signal generator of claim 17 further comprising normalizing means for normalizing said X- and Y-components to a range similar to the range of the audio program.

20. The test generator of claim 17 wherein said converter means further comprises a Cartesian converter for generating Cartesian coordinates from said digital data, said X- and Y-components corresponding to said Cartesian

coordinates.